

Worthington, of A.	Ford of Q. A.	Hart
Lynch	George	Howard
Johnson of A.	Henry	Waters
Hance	Purnell	Patterson
Morsell	Lamden	Raymond
Hellen	Fooks	Ebaugh
Hughes	Poole	Thomson
Freeman	Buckey	Rogers—48.
Harrington		

NEGATIVE.

Messrs.	Hollyday of Cecil	Williams, of B. C.
Kent	Maffitt	Springer
Walker	Harris	Graves
Randall	Calvert	Gallagher
Ware	Ghiselin	Hammill
Muse	Shriver	Neff
Frazier	Biser	Fitzpatrick—22.
Bouchel	Stansbury of B. city	

So the preamble and order was laid on the table.

Mr. Morsell from the committee on Retrenchment, submitted the following message :

By the House of Delegates,

March 1st, 1845.

Gentlemen of the Senate :

We have received with deep regret, your message of the 26th ultimo, withholding your assent to an act to reduce the salaries of all officers paid out of the State Treasury, except salaries fixed by the Constitution, which passed this House by an almost unanimous vote. Your honorable body object to the bill in consequence of its operation upon the officers of Governor and Secretary of State, and rely upon the act entitled, a supplement to the act to fix and make permanent the salaries of certain officers of the Government, passed December session 1837, chapter 131, to prove that these salaries, by contract, injured to the said officers during their term of office. We respectfully dissent from this opinion.

The salaries of the aforesaid officers, as well as all others, (except those fixed by the Constitution,) are regulated and fixed by law; to repeal which, no one can doubt a succeeding Legislature has the right. By reference to the act providing for the appointment of Clerks, Registers, &c., passed December session 1836, chapter 224, you will perceive that the Constitution was changed, and the said officers who had received their offices, to continue during good behaviour, were limited to the term of seven years. Now, if this change in the Constitution could be considered no infraction of a contract between the State and the said officers, then we are at a loss to conceive how the change proposed by the bill which passed this House, can be construed into a violation of a contract between the State and the officers mentioned by you. They came